United Nations A/C.3/58/L.3

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 September 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 108
Crime prevention and criminal justice

International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 2003/21 of 22 July 2003, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"**International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto**

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[1] the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[3]

"*Recalling also* its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in

[1] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.
[2] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex II.
[3] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex III.

03-53177 (E) 021003

Firearms, Their Parts, Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[4]

"*Recalling further* its resolution 56/120 of 19 December 2001, on action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

"*Reaffirming its deep concern* at the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

"*Reaffirming* that the adoption of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is a significant development in international criminal law and that they constitute important instruments for effective international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[5]

"2. *Welcomes* the imminent entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and notes the number of signatures and ratifications of the three Protocols to the Convention, which is likely to lead to the expected entry into force at an early date of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

"3. *Commends* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat for its work in promoting the ratification of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including, in particular, the preparation of legislative guides designed to facilitate the ratification and subsequent implementation of those instruments, and invites the Centre to finalize the legislative guides and to disseminate them as widely as possible;

"4. *Welcomes* the organization by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat of the treaty event "Focus 2003: treaties against transnational organized crime and terrorism", which is to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with its resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002, urges Member States to participate fully in that event, and also urges Member States that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, approval or accession to the Convention and the Protocols thereto, in order to ensure the widest possible participation in those instruments and thus to maximize their effectiveness;

[4] General Assembly resolution 55/255, annex.

[5] E/CN.15/2003/5.

"5. Also welcomes the financial support provided by several donors to promote the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and encourages Member States to make sufficient voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as contributions in direct support of activities and projects of the Centre, including through contributions to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments;

"6. *Requests* the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in its capacity as secretariat of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its Protocols, to undertake all activities necessary to ensure the efficient preparation of the inaugural session of the Conference, in 2004;

"7. *Also requests* the Centre, within existing regular or extrabudgetary resources, in preparing to provide services to the Conference of the Parties, as mandated, to develop a guide containing elements that would be useful to States Parties in meeting their reporting requirements to the Conference of the Parties and to undertake a study on the functioning of extradition and mutual legal assistance through existing mechanisms, including bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements or arrangements;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Centre with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with its mandate;

"9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in his report on the work of the Centre to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session."